

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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VOLUME XXXIX.....NO. 364

## AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

GERMANIA THEATRE.  
Fourteenth street—DIE MALEN, at 8 P. M.; closes at  
10.30 P. M.METROPOLITAN THEATRE.  
No. 98 Broadway—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30  
P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.GRAND OPERA HOUSE.  
Twenty-third street and Fifth Avenue—THE BLACK  
CROOK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.TONY PASTORS OPERA HOUSE.  
Bowery—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.45 P. M.PARK THEATRE.  
Broadway, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second  
streets—GILDED AGE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.  
Mr. John I. Raymond.OLYMPIC THEATRE.  
No. 64 Broadway—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.45  
P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.BOOTH'S THEATRE.  
Corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth Avenue—  
LITTLE EMILY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Mr.  
Knox.ROMAN HIPPODROME.  
Twenty-sixth street and Fourth Avenue—BLUE  
PEARL AND FEET AT PEKIN, afternoon and evening,  
at 8 and 10.TIVOLI THEATRE.  
Eighty-third street—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.  
Twenty-eighth street and Broadway—PYGMALION  
AND GALATHEA, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M. Miss  
Carolina Leichter.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.  
West Twenty-third street and Broadway—NEGRO  
MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Dan  
Bryant.METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART.  
Fourteenth street—Open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.NIELSEN.  
Broadway—JACK AND JILL, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.45  
P. M.BROOKLYN THEATRE.  
Washington street—LED ASTLEY, at 8 P. M. Mr. Frank  
Boach, Mrs. Conway.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.  
Broadway, corner of Twenty-third street—NEGRO  
MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.ROBINSON HALL.  
Sixteenth street—BEGON DILL CARE, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 9.45 P. M. Mr. Macabee.GLOBE THEATRE.  
Broadway—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.30 P. M.  
Matinee at 2 P. M.NEW YORK STADI THEATRE.  
Bowery—LA BELLE HELENE, at 8 P. M.; closes at  
10.30 P. M. Lina May.ACADEMY OF MUSIC.  
Irving place—DON GIOVANNI, at 8 P. M. Miss Emma  
Alban.BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.  
KING JOHN, at 8 P. M. Mrs. Agnes Booth, J. B. Booth.LYCEUM THEATRE.  
Fourteenth street and Sixth Avenue—MADAME  
L'ARCHEVOISE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.45 P. M. Miss  
Elliott Solenne.WALLACE'S THEATRE.  
Broadway—THE SCHAUBRAUX, at 8 P. M.; closes at  
10.45 P. M. Mr. Boucicault.WOODS MUSEUM.  
Broadway, corner of Thirtieth street—AFTER DARK,  
at 8 P. M.; closes at 10.45 P. M.; and at 8 P. M., closes at  
10.45 P. M. J. H. Tison.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities  
are that the weather to-day will be partly cloudy  
and decidedly colder, with rising barometer.WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock market  
was generally steady, and at the close a  
trifle stronger. Gold closed at 111½. Money  
on call loans was 3 and 4 per cent. Foreign ex-  
change was firm at late quotations.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.—To rapid transit.

RAPID TRANSIT is a question of life and  
death to the prosperity of New York.As yet no democrat has put himself on record  
in favor of one term. Where are the  
statesmen who were so vociferous on the stump  
against Cissarism and three terms?THE EXCISE BOARD gives a statement to-day  
of their manner of distributing their funds  
among the various charitable societies of the  
city.KING KALAKAUA respectfully declines a  
visit to the institutions under the direction  
of the Commissioners of Charities and Correc-  
tion. He does not care particularly to  
inspect paupers and criminals, and perhaps  
he wishes to avoid a speech of welcome from  
the ex-Boss.THE ELECTION of Charles O'Connor to the  
Senate would be like a return to the time of  
the Revolution, when sages and statesmen ruled  
the Republic. But, unfortunately, it would not  
suit the ring of gold-spectacled statesmen who  
regard the democracy as a long postponed in-  
vestment on which they are about to realize.BUILDERS should be reminded during this  
weather of slush and mud that there are  
rights to which the public are entitled. In  
many of the streets up town portions of the  
sidewalk have been removed or are encum-  
bered with timber and bricks, and after dark  
pedestrianism is extremely perilous in those  
localities.Tweed still beats at the bars of his jail.  
He yearns for freedom. His lawyers have  
prepared a return to the court. It is an in-  
teresting if perhaps a technical pleading. But  
it omits one point—namely, the proffer to the  
treasury of all the money stolen from the city  
during his tenure of power. This would be a  
brave act. It would show that the old man  
really wanted to get out of jail. It would be  
an act of justice properly preceding an act  
of mercy. What eloquent speeches David  
Dudley Field and Judge O'Connor could  
make on this offer! Let us have justice be-  
fore mercy. Pay back the money!The Manhattan Club Reception—The  
New State and City Governments.

It would be churlish to take exceptions to  
the attempts to give a factitious éclat to the  
advent of Mr. Tilden to gubernatorial  
honors. For ourselves, we think it decent  
and becoming to soften politics with the grace  
of social civilities, and we recognize the fitness  
of the reception given last evening, at the  
Manhattan Club, to the Governor elect of the  
State and the Mayor elect of the city. The  
military honors which have been planned for  
Governor Tilden at Albany on the day of his  
inauguration belong to the same order of com-  
plimentary observances, and the fact that  
neither Marcy, nor Wright, nor Seymour  
were inducted into office with similar pomp  
and parade is no valid argument against  
this deviation from the old democratic sim-  
plicity of which Jefferson was the most  
noted exemplar. Jefferson, perhaps, carried  
his affection of republican simplicity to an  
ostentatious extreme, intending it as a protest  
against what his political followers stigmatized  
as an aping of monarchical ceremony by his  
predecessors, Washington and Adams. Jefferson  
was a great man, who felt that he could  
securely preserve his dignity without artificial  
supports, like the illustrious Roman who en-  
forced the respect of his visitors while making  
a dinner of turnips on his Sabine farm. But  
Jefferson carried his contempt of parade to an  
extreme, and it is quite allowable for one of  
his most ardent disciples to introduce different  
usages.

It was not to have been expected that an  
occasion so festive and complimentary as that  
at the Manhattan Club last evening should  
have much political significance. The speeches  
are in a tone of promise and congratulation,  
and do not convey any definite idea of the  
specific practical measures which the new  
State government and the new city government  
will try to adopt. Such vague, glittering  
generalities are apt to be a little flashy, and  
there are obvious reasons in the present in-  
stance why the new executives should not  
wish to anticipate the topics of their forth-  
coming messages. The most that these com-  
plimentary festivities can do is to direct pub-  
lic attention to the accession of the demo-  
cratic party to power in the State and city  
and excite a favoring interest in the official  
declarations of policy presently to be made  
by its chosen magistrates.

The two gentlemen who were *fiat* at the  
Manhattan Club last night feel an anxious  
solicitude as to the judgment the public will  
pass upon them at the outset of their official  
careers. They are both quite new to official  
life, and naturally feel something of the trep-  
idation of persons who appear for the first  
time in a new character. The generosity  
with which they have been treated since their  
election, the expressions of confidence in  
their favor and the universal disposition to  
give them a fair trial, must naturally  
strengthen their wish to satisfy public expec-  
tation. "What is well begun is half done,"  
and it deeply concerns men who come so late  
to official distinction to make a favorable  
impression at the beginning. If the first month  
of their administration should disappoint ex-  
pectation nothing which they can do during  
the residue of the two years will reinstate  
them in public confidence. If they had an  
old and favorable official record a few pre-  
liminary blunders might be overlooked; but  
men who make their first appearance in a con-  
juncture so momentous as the present cannot  
expect much indulgence if their earliest acts  
should provoke denunciation. Their success  
as public functionaries is irretrievably staked  
upon their starting well.

We take it for granted that Governor Tilden,  
in his message to the Legislature, will  
recommend a revision of the city charter. It  
is well known that he disapproved of the  
Tweed charter, and went to Albany to protest  
against its passage. The amendments after-  
ward made in it by a republican legisla-  
ture were contrary to his views. If there is  
any subject on which Mr. Tilden's opinions  
are perfectly understood it is that of  
a proper scheme of government for  
the city of New York. He has long ad-  
vocated an entire separation of city affairs  
from both State and national affairs. All his  
friends know that in 1870, and at all times,  
he has advocated such a change in the time  
of the city election as would prevent it being  
mixed up with State politics. In 1870 Mr.  
Tilden was a strenuous advocate of a mun-  
icipal election in April in order to exclude all  
but purely municipal questions from our city  
contests. A vigorous devotee of local self-  
government, it offended his political con-  
science to have the State election and the  
city election held on the same day, or even  
at the same season of the year, lest the State  
should have an undue influence in the local  
affairs of the city. If Mr. Tilden stands by  
his past record he is the most uncompromis-  
ing champion among all our distin-  
guished citizens of an entire separation be-  
tween municipal and State politics. We  
are, therefore, authorized to expect  
that he will recommend in his message  
such changes in the city charter as will estab-  
lish "home rule" or local self-government on  
a secure basis and give the people of this city  
unrestrained control of their local administra-  
tion. Anything less would disappoint demo-  
cratic expectations and convict the new Gov-  
ernor of political inconsistency.

If the people of this city are competent to  
govern themselves according to the "home  
rule" declaration of the platform on which  
Mr. Tilden was elected their officers ought to  
be men whom the people of this city endorse,  
or, at least, men in whom their own chosen  
Mayor has confidence. Knowing how irrevo-  
cably Mr. Tilden is committed to the prin-  
ciple of "home rule," we discredit some cur-  
rent surmises that old personal associations  
will swerve him from his mature convictions.  
If Mayor Wickham should think it his duty  
to remove Comptroller Green, as we have  
good reasons for thinking that he will,  
Governor Tilden could not interfere to save  
that unpopular officer without falsifying  
his whole record on municipal questions. It  
is impossible to suppose that a public officer  
who has so much at stake could so stultify  
himself at the outset of what promises to be  
a brilliant career. Notwithstanding his old  
private relations with Comptroller Green he  
must be sensible that if the Comptroller were  
an elective officer, as he was previous to the  
passage of the Tweed charter, Mr. Green  
could not be presented to the electors without  
being the worst beaten candidate that ever  
ran for a city office. If, therefore, Mayor

Wickham finds cause for his immediate re-  
moval Governor Tilden cannot interfere to  
save him without violating a fundamental  
principle of the democratic creed. In the  
recommendations which Governor Tilden will  
make in his message for a revision  
of the city charter there are only  
two courses open to him so far as the  
Finance Department of the city is con-  
cerned. One is to restore the election of the  
Comptroller to the people, as in former times,  
which would be a virtual repudiation of the  
charlatan Green, and the other is to make the  
elected Mayor entirely responsible for the  
success of the municipal government by con-  
ferring on him the absolute power of appoint-  
ing and removing all city officers according  
to his sense of the public interest. Either of  
these methods would be fatal to Green. A  
very elaborate argument of Mr. Tilden, pub-  
lished three or four years ago, puts him on  
record as a strenuous advocate of so mending  
the frame of our city government that the  
people would be able in every election (and,  
if our memory be not at fault, he favored an-  
nual city elections) to change the whole per-  
sonnel of the city government. It was on this  
ground that he opposed that feature of the  
Tweed charter which gave such long tenures  
to the heads of departments and made it im-  
possible for the people to change the entire  
body of their rulers in any one election.  
These published views, which Mr. Tilden can-  
not now repudiate, thoroughly commit him,  
in point of consistency, to sanction the re-  
moval of Comptroller Green when it is made  
by Mayor Wickham, and it is impossible that  
a man of his high sense of character and con-  
sistency can stultify himself by a contrary course.

## Sheridan in New Orleans.

The announcement that General Sheridan  
is on the way to New Orleans is the most im-  
portant event in the history of reconstruction.  
As we understand the nature of the instruc-  
tions given to the General he simply goes  
South on an errand of inquiry and observa-  
tion. Although not assigned to the actual  
command of the unsettled States it is un-  
derstood that in the event of any disturbance he  
will, by his rank alone, naturally assume com-  
mand. Should there be no trouble his trip  
will be somewhat like that of General Grant  
himself, when, at the end of the war, he  
made a tour in the South. The temper of the  
people is such that we hardly think there will  
be any necessity for the General's active inter-  
ference. There is no disposition, so far as we  
can learn, on the part of the conservatives to  
dispute the federal authority. That being so  
it makes little difference whether the  
actual military commander is Sheridan or  
Emory. General Emory has done his work  
well. He is acceptable to the Southern peo-  
ple. He is a good soldier, conservative, loyal,  
and commands the confidence of all classes.  
Should there be, however, any outbreak, the  
presence of Sheridan means stern and swift  
repression.

While we have every confidence in the wis-  
dom and valor of Sheridan, and while we feel  
that his presence in New Orleans will be an  
assurance of peace to all classes, and that  
from his fame and his rank alone there will be  
the best guarantee of his impartiality, recon-  
struction in Louisiana is in such a condition  
that no military man is needed. Sheridan's  
assignment to an active command would be a  
menace and not an inducement to peace and  
compromise. We cannot pacify the Southern  
States by the sword. The general sentiment  
of the country will be that the logic of Sheri-  
dan's appointment means a menace to the  
South. To that extent it is a mistake. Our  
confident hope is that the Lieutenant General  
will disappoint the hopes of those who regard  
his errand as a support of the carpet-baggers  
as well as those who regard him as a mes-  
senger of fury and despotism. By his fact he  
will do away with the unpleasant fears now  
excited by his appointment, and at the same  
time secure that even-handed justice which is  
only needed to perfect reconstruction.

ART AND POLITICS.—The question whether  
the eagles of the Empire are to remain on the  
new Opera House in Paris excites some dis-  
cussion in the French journals. A bronze  
eagle, facing the entrance to the Emperor's  
box, was taken down after the Fourth of Sep-  
tember and has not been replaced, but the  
others still remain. The architect advances  
the opinion that changes in politics should  
not affect art, and that every monument  
should be allowed to preserve the emblems of  
the time when it was built. The government  
seems to have adopted this idea, especially in  
regard to the Column Vendôme. It was in-  
tended that this column, which has borne the  
figure of Napoleon in two offices—as emperor  
and general—should be crowned by a statue  
of a French soldier. This was the idea of the  
Prince de Joinville, a son of Louis Philippe,  
whose father, by the way, restored Napoleon  
to the top of the column after it had been  
pulled down by the Bourbons. But the gov-  
ernment evidently feels that the Column Ven-  
dôme without the Emperor's figure on the top  
would be a more eloquent monument of Bonap-  
artism than to replace it as it was before the  
Commune pulled the column down.

NEGLECT OF THE FOG HORNS.—It is seldom  
we have dense fogs in this city, but whenever  
the weather is very foggy, as it was on Mon-  
day, an accident on one or other of the ferries  
is almost certain to be the consequence. No  
precaution that has yet been displayed has  
been able to avert disasters like that on the  
East River, where the Golden and Alaska col-  
lided. It must be confessed that the passage  
of the boats from New York to the neighbor-  
ing cities is a public necessity, even in the face  
of danger. We believe the officers of our  
ferry companies are disposed to decrease the  
risk as much as possible, but the passengers  
on some of the lines notice a neglect that is  
conceivable. The law requires that on such  
days as Monday the boats shall continually  
sound their fog horns, but this rule is not  
always observed. Sometimes a minute inter-  
venes between the alarms. Two boats nearly  
collided in the East River yesterday morning  
from the neglect of this rule, and it may be  
that a like neglect was the cause of the col-  
lision between the Golden and the Alaska and  
the consequent loss of life. In any event the  
rule should be faithfully observed, for by  
doing so many lives may be saved.

TRANSIT OF VENUS.—We publish to-day a  
very interesting letter from the American  
scientific expedition sent to the antipodes to  
observe the transit of Venus.

Roman Patriotism in the Police  
Board.

The honorable Board of Police Commis-  
sioners have covered themselves with glory.  
As Lucius Junius Brutus passed sentence of  
decapitation on his offending son, even so  
has George Washington Matseil condemned to  
the guillotine his transgressing children of the  
detective squad. As Ishmael was banished  
from the house of Abraham by its head, even  
so has Heidelberg for illegitimate acts been  
expelled from the Mulberry street house by  
the seed of Abraham, called Dislocker.  
Sternly, grudgingly, undimly have the  
military Duryee and the oratorical Voorhis  
performed their parts in the stirring drama,  
and Tilley and his side partner are no more.  
The offense of these obnoxious stars of the  
detective firmament was of a grave and  
weighty character. A number of stolen  
house blankets had been recovered from  
thieves and lodged at Headquarters. Two of  
the lot had been found by  
detectives of detectives, nicely folded up  
and lying snugly at the bottom of the  
"lockers" used by Heidelberg and Tilley.  
The presumption was that they were intended  
to keep the limbs of those enterprising offi-  
cers from the frost and cold during the yet-to-  
come winter months. To be sure the defence  
claimed that the affair was trivial and the  
proof inconclusive; that the blankets might  
have come where they were found by accident  
or by the design of jealous rivals. But the  
Roman firmness of the conscientious Commis-  
sioners was unshaken; the things they are  
pleased to call their minds were unconvicted.  
Heidelberg and Tilley were found guilty of  
the heinous offense of having blankets in  
their lockers. They were even denied the  
right to attempt to prove that they were  
army contract blankets, and as such of no  
value. The inflexible President,  
having been assisted to his feet,  
moved that the offenders be dismissed from  
the department. Three sepulchral "ayes" fol-  
lowed the motion, and as George Washington  
Lucius Junius Brutus Matseil fell heavily back  
in his easy chair the heads of the decapitated  
detectives rolled in the departmental dust.

And now we are to have a reorganization of  
the detective department. The dismissal of  
the officers who were troubled with blanket in  
the locker is to be the initial movement in  
Mulberry street purification. We shall now  
probably discover by what mysterious means  
ex-Speaker Alvord recovered his watch and a  
Police Commissioner won his bottle of wine.  
The name of the detective who is on  
such familiar terms with the New York  
thieves as to get back stolen property  
whenever it may suit his purpose and allow  
the criminals to go scot free will no doubt be  
given to the public. The numerous jobs that  
have been hushed up and "squared" for a  
consideration may be expected to be brought  
to light. We may even hope for an explana-  
tion of the police captains' "rings" and of  
the policy recently adopted of shifting around  
new precincts the uniformed "pals" of panel  
house keepers, gamblers and policy dealers.  
Under the new dispensation who can tell  
where the reform will stop? May we not  
soon even hope to find murderers, kidnappers,  
burglars, highwaymen and other thieves  
actually discovered and brought to justice by  
the police? What is not possible, now that  
Tilley and Heidelberg, who have borne the  
reputation of being excellent officers, have  
been thus summarily disposed of?

## Mortality and Cold.

The sanitary statistics of London for the  
week ending December 5 furnish one of the  
most startling illustrations on record of the  
little understood relation between mortality  
and cold. The week in question was one of  
very low temperature, and the death rate  
mounted up to a correspondingly high figure.  
The popular impression has long existed that  
the severe depressions of temperature, except  
to the ragged and ill-fed classes, were to be re-  
garded as sanitary boons, giving tone and  
solidity to the human frame; and so, under  
certain circumstances, they are found to work.  
But, practically, as the most rigid analysis  
of the death rate statistics proves, a cold snap  
is scarcely less fatal for the time it lasts than an  
irruption of cholera or smallpox.

The mortuary register for the week ending  
December 5, in London, shows an amazing  
excess for heart and lung diseases, ranging  
from fifty to two hundred and twenty-four  
above the average, falling most heavily on the  
extreme ages, senile and infantile. Such a  
result cannot be explained by supposing that  
the shock of the winter fell upon homeless  
and half-clothed victims, but must be regarded  
as another striking proof of the deadliness of  
cold itself.

That the great thermal vicissitudes are  
faithfully reflected in the sickness and mortality  
of all geographical sections is becoming  
clearer as the records of disease are more  
carefully compiled. Dr. Prestel, of Emden,  
who for over thirty years has observed and  
discussed meteorological phenomena, collating  
recently with the sanitary statistics of  
Friesland, maintains that from the nature of  
the prevailing winds the relative salubrity of  
a district can be determined. Giving the  
cause time to have its due effect, he concludes  
that ventilation or agitation of the atmos-  
phere is as essential to the health of a dis-  
trict as the renewal of air in a sick room,  
and that calms are as dangerous as any other  
meteoric conditions. No doubt the calms that  
precede the rapid barometric rise with its  
accompanying frigid temperatures, by vitiat-  
ing the air we breathe, weaken the  
human system and prepare it for the invasive  
force of the wintry blast. The Philadelphia  
registers for 1872 graphically show how the  
curves indicating the course of mortality from  
most winter diseases rapidly rise with the  
thermal decline and decline with the thermal  
rise. The smallpox fatality, usually greatest  
in March, then occurred in January, whose  
thermometric mean was the lowest of any of  
the winter months. And the inference sug-  
gested by these facts has been corroborated  
by an Austrian medico-meteorologist of Pesth,  
who finds that the meteorological changes  
reflect themselves in the amount and aggrava-  
tion of sickness.

The subject is one of such vital importance  
to all classes, especially in our climate—where  
from proximity on the one hand to the  
warm Gulf Stream and on the other to the  
cold, semi-Arctic Canadas, the changes are  
most sudden and severe—that it should more  
engage popular as well as medical attention.  
Prudent recognition of the philosophy which

it teaches would enormously mitigate the  
sufferings of the poorer classes and rightly  
direct the skilled charities which are now  
seeking to guard the public health. When the  
thermometer falls below thirty degrees the  
shock on the system is quickly succeeded by a  
reaction, which makes a heavy drain on the re-  
serve vital energy, which must be replenished  
by increased consumption of solid food, or,  
this fuel failing, the animal heat falls below  
the health point. Then it is the famished and  
ill-protected most feel the tooth of hunger and  
need the most generous diet. But with the rise  
of temperature the food supply should be pro-  
portionately abridged and held in store for the  
more trying season.

A little care systematically bestowed upon  
children, regulating their clothing and food  
in accordance with the showing of these facts,  
would immensely increase their comfort and  
reduce the mortality which at this season pre-  
vails.

## France and French Problems.

In France we see a new crisis. The spirit  
of royalty again threatens the peace of that  
sorely distracted land. There have a most  
extraordinary complication. There is an As-  
sembly without respect or authority which  
came into power representing the terror of  
France. There is a Marshal-President who  
means to hold power for seven years as the  
servant of this Assembly. Whenever the  
country speaks, through elections to fill  
vacancies in the Assembly or to elect local  
officers, it speaks, almost without exception,  
in behalf of a republic. No fact is more cer-  
tain than that France is to-day as republican  
as the United States or Switzerland. Nor is  
it a spasmodic republicanism, born in anger  
and revenge and making toward terror, but  
a calm, conservative, steadily-gaining senti-  
ment—a conviction that kings are no longer  
necessary factors in authority and govern-  
ment; that France and the French people are  
greater than Bourbon or Bonaparte. The  
royalists say that they will not embarrass  
the Marshal in his attempts to govern.  
They will give him all the laws neces-  
sary to repress sedition, manage the  
press and suppress indiscreet speech. They  
will vote him money and hold office under  
him. They will take his crosses and decorations  
and emoluments; but they will not allow  
a single law to pass that in any way regards  
MacMahon as a republican President, or even  
as the chief of a party. He is simply a soldier  
holding guard over France until the King or  
the Emperor comes. Here, then, is a govern-  
ment which is not even a usurpation, but an  
accident or a pretext. It represents neither  
the grace of God nor the will of the people.  
It lacks the dignity and splendor of the mon-  
archy or the majestic power of a republic. It  
is simply a soldier standing guard, and the  
question in all minds is whether he is not  
really a guard over a volcano.

But republican France is very patient. What  
wisdom Gambetta and his colleagues have  
shown! Wisdom like this would have enabled  
Vergniaud and Roland and their associates to  
found the first Republic beyond any perad-  
venture of Napoleonic usurpation. France  
attempts to her duties, to her wine-growing,  
her spinning, her cheese and sugar-making,  
and waits. We read of "little political in-  
terest in many of the departments." The  
people are so profoundly indifferent to polit-  
ical intrigue that in a large district there was  
only one voter who took part in a recent  
election. On all sides MacMahon is implored  
to keep the peace and prevent any change.  
The present Assembly, except the republicans,  
do not desire a dissolution. The clergy, who  
fear Gambetta, and see only faint hopes of the  
reign of a most Christian king; the nobility,  
who do not want the tenure of land  
disturbed by a monarch or their titles abolished  
by the socialists; the army, which dreads dis-  
organization or perhaps disbandment; mer-  
chants, alarmed at any shock to trade; the  
members of respectable families, who fright-  
ened at any prospect of being obliged to fly  
from another revolution—all these interests  
entreat the Marshal to rule with a firm hand,  
to watch well his volcano, and not leave it  
for a moment. What the republicans have to  
avoid is the expression of any anxiety or im-  
patience or agitation that may give him the  
pretext to proclaim a dictatorship, a pretext he  
would willingly accept rather than surrender  
his peculiar incongruous extraordinary power.

Altogether the new year will open upon ex-  
traordinary complications, and omens that the  
wisest may well fail to read. All signs beto-  
ken important events, as grave perhaps as  
any in modern history.

WE AS YET have no answer from Wash-  
ington as to the connection of the Presi-  
dent with the stock-jobbing despatch  
about Cuba and Cuban affairs which  
appeared in the newspapers anticipatory  
of the Message, and which produced so  
profound an impression upon the minds of  
the Spanish people and upon the funds in Lon-  
don. There was never a more shameless stock-  
jobbing fabrication, and worse than all, it  
has been traced directly to the President, who  
gave it to the Washington correspondent of  
the Associated Press. Should this not be  
made a matter for inquiry by Congress?

A SAILOR'S MARRIAGE on board the three  
masted monitor, Roanoke, is brilliantly de-  
scribed in our columns to-day. The "event"  
took place in presence of the officers and crew  
and the fair bride and the gallant groom had  
a reception more brilliant and more congenial  
to them than if they had been married in a  
fashionable church, and had a fashionable re-  
ception on the Avenue. Well might Jack have  
said on this occasion, as he once did in a  
storm at sea, "Lord! how I pity them poor  
folks ashore."

THE AWFUL CALAMITY of the burning at  
sea of the emigrant ship Cospatrick is a lesson  
that should not be disregarded by shipowners.  
Although we have received but meagre de-  
tails as yet of the disaster, yet they are suf-  
ficient to warrant a doubt as to the efficiency  
and completeness of the life-saving apparatus  
on board the ill-fated vessel. We learn that  
only two boats succeeded in getting away,  
containing a very small proportion of the  
crew and passengers. The investigation which  
must follow will probably throw some light  
on the subject.

THE BROOKLYN CITY COURT, in General  
Term, has decided to excuse Tilton from fur-  
nishing a bill of particulars in his civil suit.  
The case will now come up for trial on Mon-  
day.

## Religion and Education.

A peculiar phase of the discussion now rag-  
ing in England between the Catholics and the  
Protestants is shown in a recent correspond-  
ence published in the London Times. The  
son of an English gentleman was a student  
at Oxford. Just before examination he left  
the English Church and entered the commu-  
nion of Rome. Upon doing this he sought  
counsel from Archbishop Manning as to his  
future course, and was instructed by the  
Archbishop that it was his duty to leave the  
university, "the Holy See having expressly  
condemned the English universities as danger-  
ous to faith and morals." The father of the  
young man, surprised at this advice, and  
naturally anxious that his son should com-  
plete his course at Oxford, wrote to the Arch-  
bishop to know whether his son really under-  
stood the episcopal meaning. The Arch-  
bishop's secretary sent the father a copy of  
the pastoral letter of the bishops, containing  
the directions of the Holy See as to the English  
universities, showing that the young man had  
rightly comprehended the meaning of His  
Grace. The secretary added a few words of  
commiseration from the Archbishop on "his  
trial" which the father had to bear. "The  
cause of it cannot be regarded by the Arch-  
bishop except as a benediction for the son;  
nevertheless he cannot but feel sympathy for  
those who feel otherwise." This direct  
avowal on the part of the head of the Catho-  
lic Church in England that it will not permit  
young men to study in the English universi-  
ties has produced a deep impression and illus-  
trates the earnestness with which the religious  
controversy is now being waged.

ADVICE TO STATESMEN.—The Pacific Mail  
investigation suggests a few observations to  
practical statesmen of an observing turn of  
mind. Never draw checks. When you have  
payments to make let it be in bills. Never go  
to banks, because some banks chase their cus-  
tomers around town by detectives. Never send  
telegraphic despatches, because they will  
come up in evidence. Never keep bank  
books, check books or telegraph books. This  
will save trouble. But still better advice is  
to be honest and necessarily happy.

AN AMERICAN IDEA ABROAD.—A recent  
number of the Manchester Guardian alludes  
to the fact that the great London Railway  
Company, on a train which leaves London at  
five o'clock in the evening, carries with it "a  
handsome saloon car, in which dinner can be  
served en route." This shows that an Ameri-  
can idea which has been adopted on our West-  
ern railways for years has finally taken root  
in conservative England.

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

India had last year 3,700,000 acres in cotton.

Governor C. R. Ingalls, of Connecticut, is at the  
Albemarle Hotel.

Livingstone's book will evidently be a great  
help to his family.

Dr. Kenealy intends to run for Parliament on the  
Tichborne issue.

Congressman H. F. Page, of California, is staying at  
the St. James Hotel.

Ex-Governor J. W. Throckmorton, of Texas, is  
registered at the Windsor Hotel.

Congressman Alexander Mitchell, of Wisconsin,  
is residing at the Hoffman House.

Paymaster M. B. Cushing, United States Navy, is  
quartered at the St. Nicholas Hotel.